



Fox River Status Update  
August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

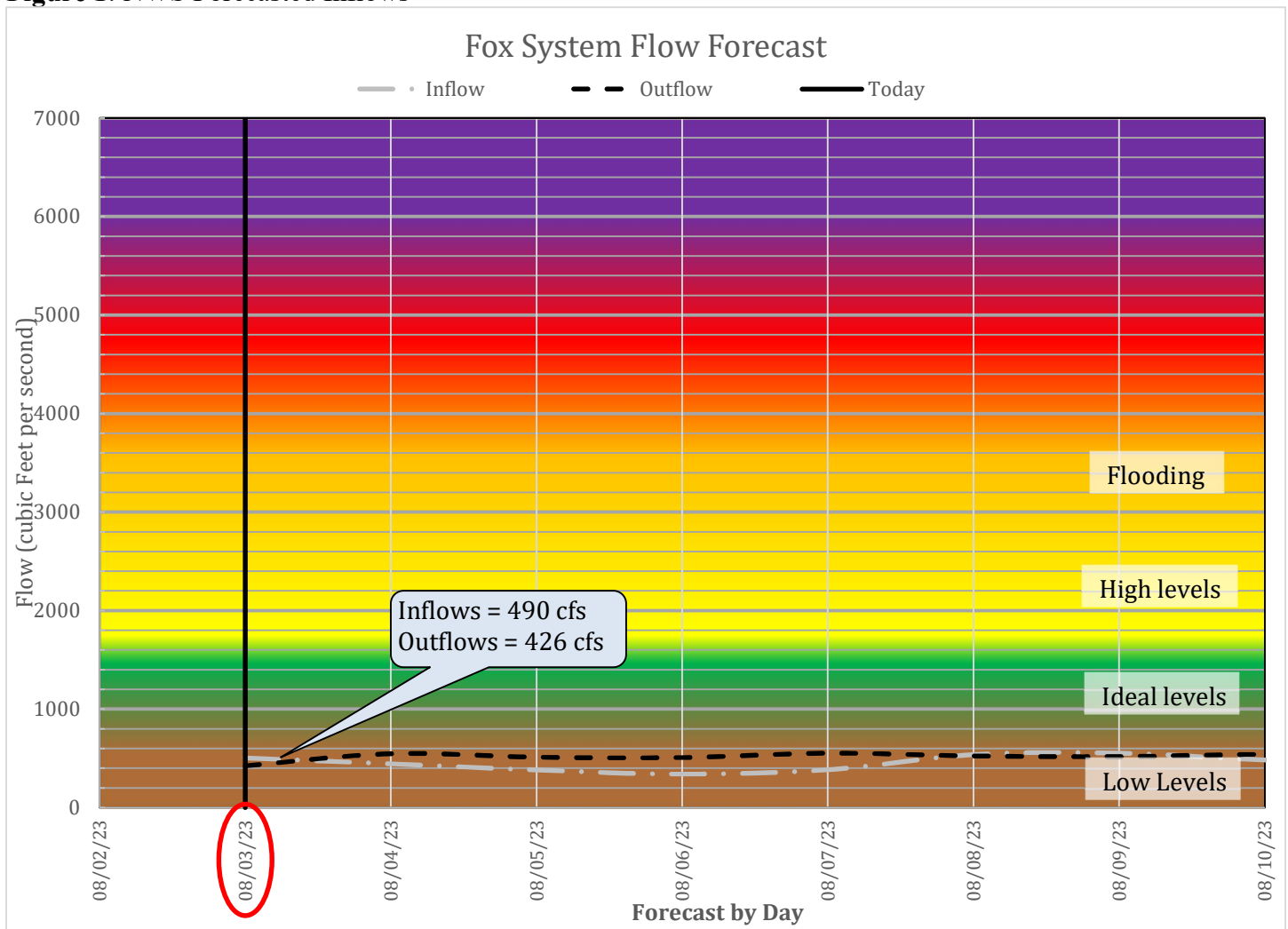
*\*This Update is based on the current forecast and will be adjusted based on future forecasts and rainfall.*

### Summary

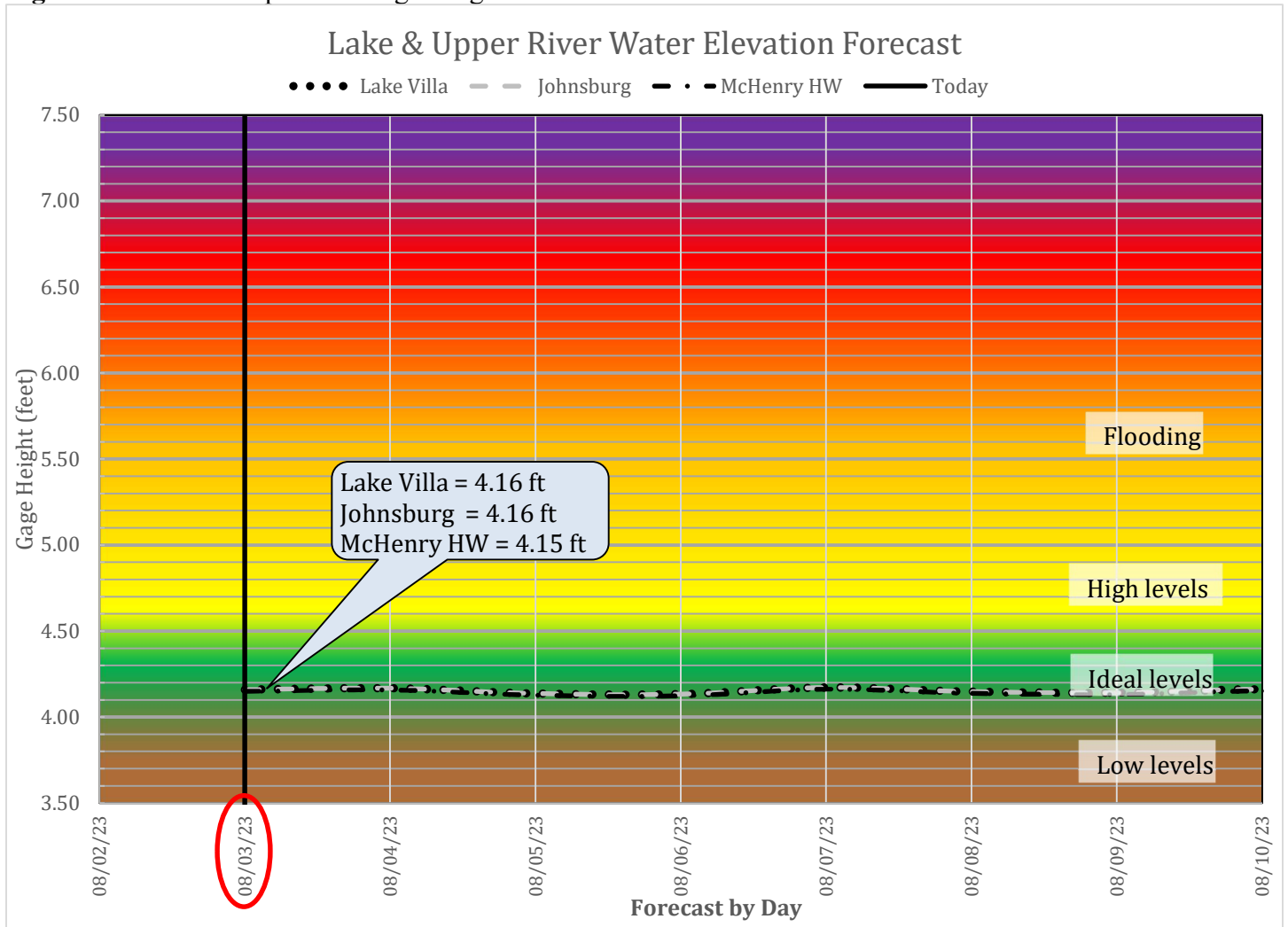
Currently there is approximately 2” rain forecasted for the watershed during the next seven days. Based on the 7-Day Inflow forecast, levels will peak on Wednesday. Based on this week’s Drought Monitor, drought conditions have started to improve (Figure 5).

### Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

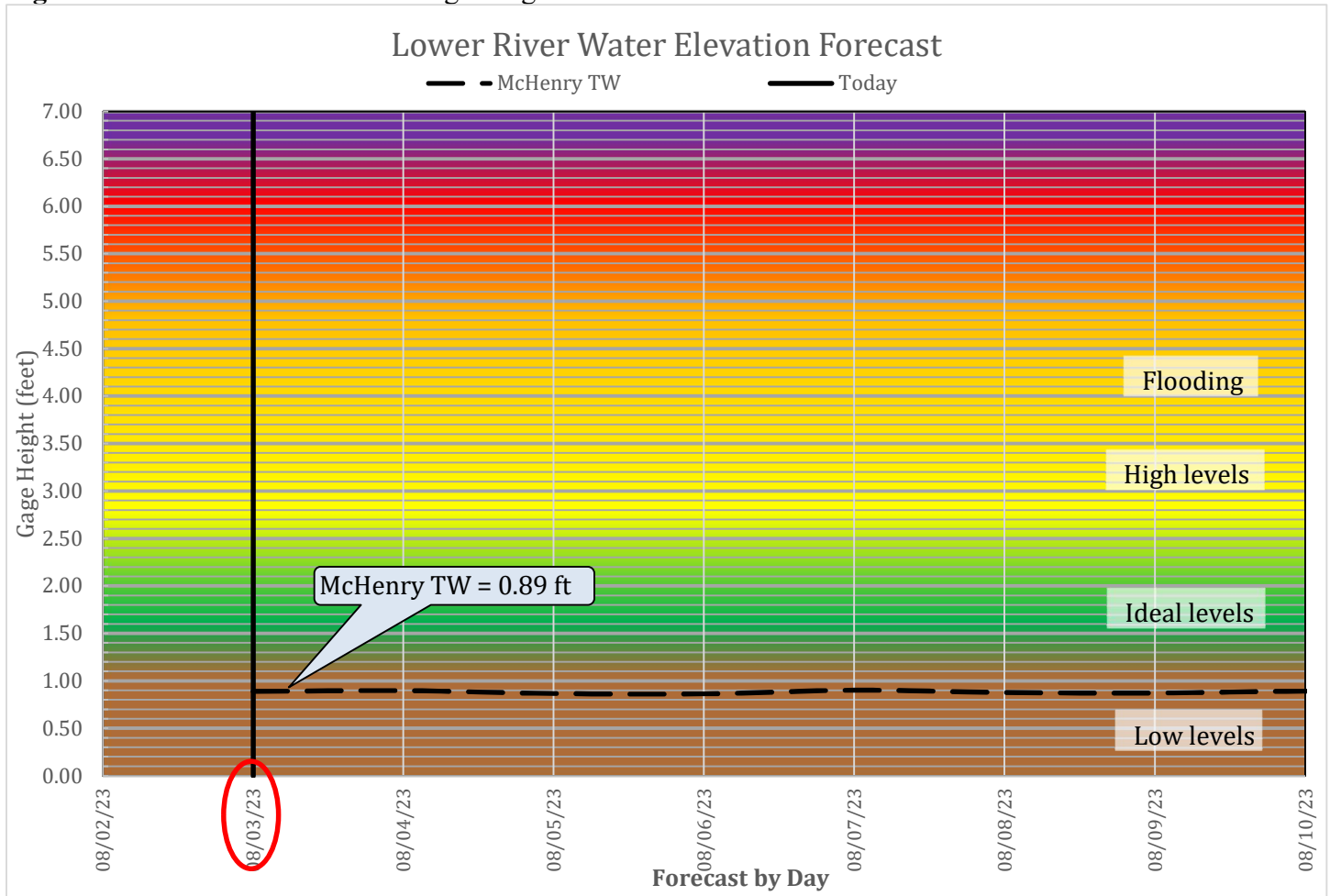
Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows



**Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights**



**Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height**



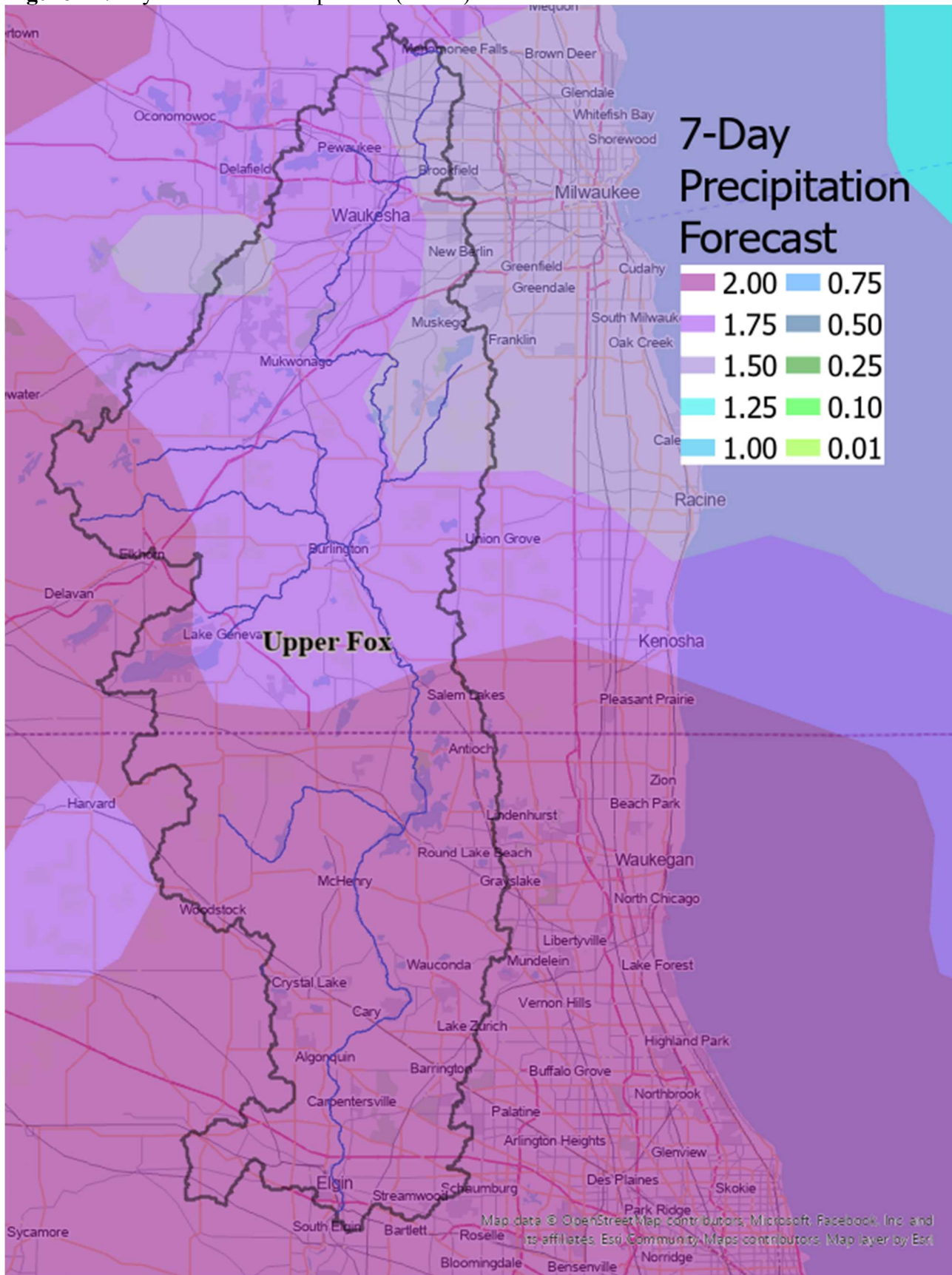
**Current Conditions**

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 348 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 36 cfs. The total net system inflows are 490 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.16 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 0.89 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.45 ft.

**Forecast**

Inflows are forecasted to peak at 554cfs on Wednesday, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas upstream of the dam will hold just below 4.2', as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River should see water levels just above the 1.0" mark, as shown above in **Figure 3**. The 7 Day Precipitation forecast is showing 2" rain for the Chain of Lakes, **Figure 4**.

**Figure 4: 7 day Forecasted Precipitation (inches) for the Fox River Watershed**



Source: <https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/general#/layers=35225+40090+40146+40091+42149+42377+40134&x=-88.48082&y=42.38798&z=9.6&panel=layer>

# System Outlook

## Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Water levels are currently forecasted to hold just under 4.2' on Fox Lake.

## McHenry Pool Area Outlook

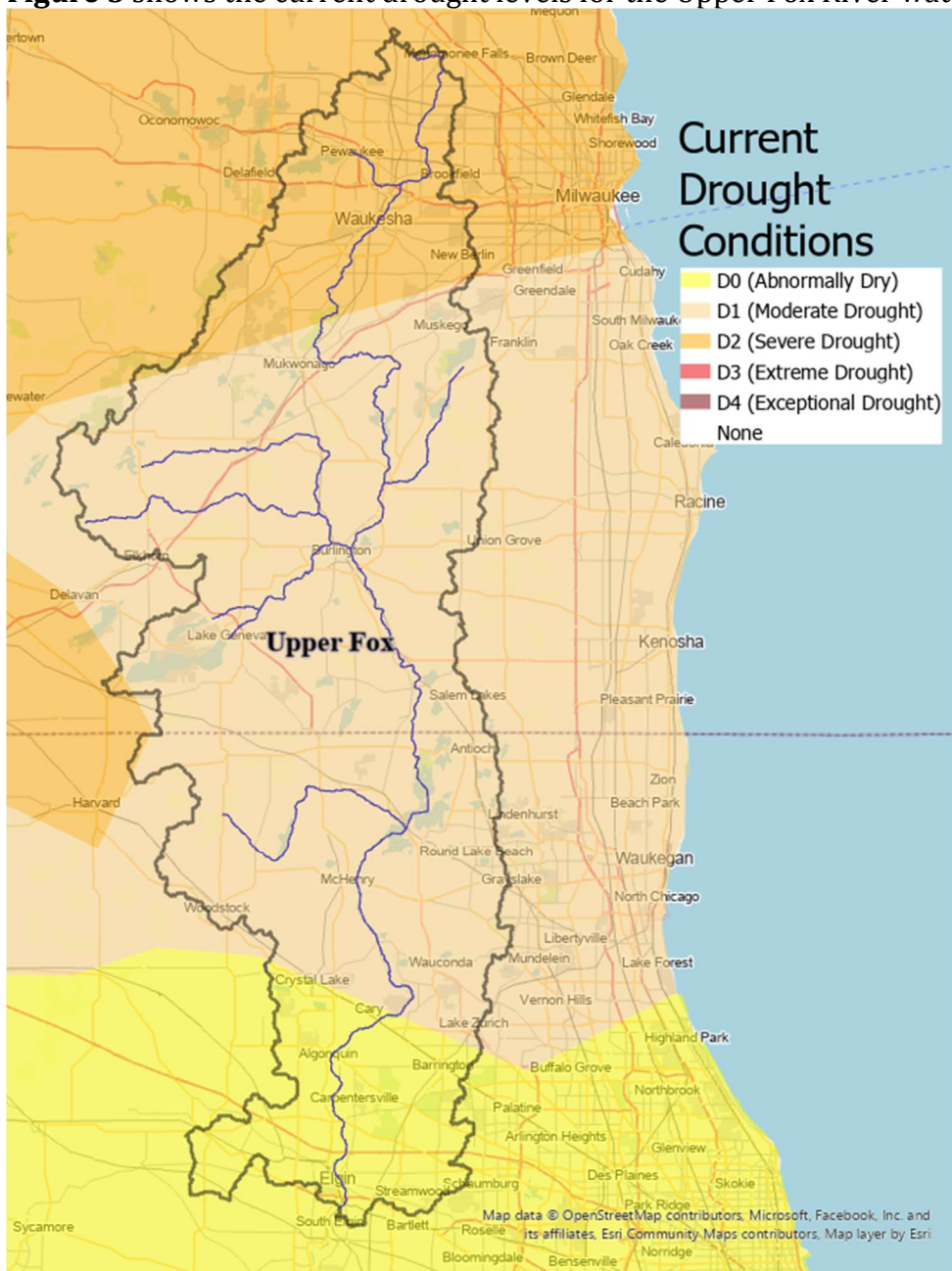
Water levels should be closer to 4.1' at the pool, as gates are lowered to make room for the precipitation.

## Lower River Outlook

The Lower River is forecasted to near the 1.1' mark, give or take.

# U.S Drought Monitor

Figure 5 shows the current drought levels for the Upper Fox River watershed.



IDNR-OWR will continue to monitor conditions and make changes as necessary pending future forecasts and conditions.

## **IDNR Office of Water Resources**

Two public surveys have been added to the web page. If either applies to you or someone you know, please think about completing it. This information will be used to assist in further studies regarding the lakes and river.

### **Business Stage Effect Survey:**

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nwgia7qOPEaE9TFxIQ-QBQKxPd7cXLJOk10jTZLKFwZUMkJFUkGxODJDMkE1RklLUUNTnII4VzdBTy4u>

### **Boat-Ground Impact Survey:**

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nwgia7qOPEaE9TFxIQ-QBQKxPd7cXLJOk10jTZLKFwZURUVJSE9MSjhMNU5KNVVSVE4zWUJFTEhSMS4u>

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham

Office of Water Resources

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

<https://dnr.illinois.gov/waterresources/strattonoperationsupdate.html>